State	Distt.	Quantity (million tonne)	Grade
Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool	0.4	6 gram/tonne
	Anantapur	0.11	2.02 gram/tonne
Karnataka	Chitradurga	0.6	*04 gram/tonne 100 gram/tonne (silver)
	Raichur	0.47	11.99 gram/tonne
	Dharwar	1.5	3 gram/tonne
	Tumkur	0.77 (Ajjanahalli Main Block)	2.09 gram/tonne
		0.38 (Ajjanahalli West Block)	1.3 gram/tonne
Kerala	Mallapuram	0.065	1.75 gram/tonne
	Palakkan		10.00 gram/tonne
Maharashtra	Nagpur	0.137	5.23 gram/tonne
Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi	2.1	1.28 gram/tonne
Rajasthan	Banswara	0.015 (Oxidized ore)	1.7 gram/tonne 1.49 to
		0.98 (Primary ore)	2.5 gram/tonne

Based on Che economic viability of the deposits a prospective exploitation agency is free to extract gold after obtaining Prospecting Licence/Mining Lease in accordance with law.

Development of catalytic converter for cars

951. SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the scientists from India and Australia have embarked on a joint programme to develop a catalytic convertor for cars to reduce the alarming air pollution levels in major cities of the coutnry, ana

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Ministry of Industry is not aware of any such programme.

Revival of ailing PSUs

952. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have yet not acted in a positive direction to assist/ revive and to deal with effectively for larger good of ailing Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) whether delay has caused enough concern so as to destabilise Indian economy in the perspective of PSUs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Opening of a Gold Jewellery show room by MMTC at Mumbai

953. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MMTC has decided to open a show room at Mumbai to exhibit, sell and popularise 24/22 carat gold jewellery;

(b) the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to do so in respect of Delhi also;

(d) if so, details therof; and

(e) if not reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) MMTC has already been operating a duty free shop located in Sahar Airport departure lounge at Mumbai for selling gold jewellery under the brand name of "24 Karats: The Jewellery House". MMTC has also taken decision to open two more show rooms in Mumbai in domestic tariff area to exhibit and sell hallmarked and certified gold jewellery.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. MMTC has proposed to open a similar show room in Delhi to sell gold jewellery under their brand name and the work is under progress.

Less coal production in die country

954. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of coal in the country continues to be short of the demand estimate; and

(b) whether modern technology is being used to increase the coal production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Indigenous availability of coal is falling short of demand as assessed by the Planning Commission. Figures of demand and production in the country for the last two years are as under:—

(million tonnes

Year	Demand	Production
1994-95	268.50	253.73
1995-96	298.80	270.13

(b) To increase coal production steps have been taken in opening up of new mines and increasing efficiency and productivity in existing mines by modernisation, application of new technologies and ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructural facilities.

Provisions for obtaining coal mining leases

955. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions and stipulations for payment of exploration, boring, developmental or other charges to the Coal India Limited or its subsidiaries by private sector and public sector, individual partis/units for obtaining coal mining leases for captive or other uses;

(b) the exact basis of determination of these charges and up-to-date information thereof;

(c) whether these charges are also to be paid for the coal bearing areas/coal mines which are not within the lease holds of the Coal India Limited or its subsidiaries, or which are not nationalised; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The Screening Committee functioning in the Ministry of Coal for screening proposals relating to captive mining by power generating companies and companies engaged in the manufacture of iron and steel had formulated certain guidelines in respect of identification/allotment of captive mining blocks one of which stipulates that the company to whom the block(s) are offered will bear full cost of exploration incurred by Coal India Ltd. etc. The Coal India Board has also issued similar directives in the matter. Therefore the allottee on payment of full cost of exploration of the block will get the geological report and then proesed for obtainininf mining lease and

(b) The job of formulation Of a basis for determination of exploration cost for captive mining blocks was entrusted to the Institute of Cost & Works Accountants of India.

The said body, after consideration of all factors, determined the basis of charging exploration cost The process of calculation of exploration cost consists of adding updated drilling cost (including cost of core analysis and geophysical tests) of all blocks plus 2.5% by way of 'Retrieval Cost (i.e. the cost of storing the test results and keeping them safe